REPORT

OF

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

Indianapolis, Jan. 1, 1894.

To the Hon. Nicholas R. Ruckle, Chairman, John B. Conner, John F. White,

Board of Public Safety:

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to submit herewith the Third Annual Report of the Police Department for the year ending December 31st, 1893.

I took the oath of office as Superintendent of Police on the afternoon of October 31, 1893, and assumed the duties thereof at once, hence my report will be largely confined to facts and figures shown by the records of this office.

In turning over to my care the affairs of said office, my predecessor, Col. Thomas F. Colbert, was very courteous and painstaking in explaining to me the system in practice in the various branches of the Department, and I desire to acknowledge his kindness and willingness to aid me in the beginning of my duties.

The efforts of this Department for the suppression of gambling, illegal sale of liquor on Sunday and after eleven o'clock at night, has been attended with good results. The professional gambler has learned that this city is not a fruitful field for his vocation, and the habitual violator of law that it is more profitable to obey than disobey, and no effort will be spared by this Department to enforce a strict compliance with all laws during the year to come.

The record of the year shows that active and persistent work on the part of the Detective Department and of the entire Force has been done and that at no time has the criminal element been permitted to gain the slightest hold. Well-known thieves, crooks and suspicious characters have been and will be arrested on sight, it being better to prevent the commission of than to punish for crime. I respectfully submit for your consideration a tabulated statement of arrests made, disposition of cases and amount of stolen property recovered.

THE G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT.

At no time in the history of this city has this Department been so taxed as it was during the Grand Army of the Republic Encampment, held in this city September the 4th to 11th, and to my predecessor, and his efficient assistants, is due the honor of reflecting the highest credit for handling the immense throng gathered on that occasion; the special detail made for said Encampment, in addition to the regular force, consisted of 12 detectives and 244 patrolmen. The regular police districts were sub divided into 42 districts, and these were placed in charge of experienced and competent officers. The work performed by these men and the quiet maintained during said Encampment call for special and most honorable mention.

PATROL SERVICE.

The patrol service consists of one open and one covered wagon, both in poor condition, and also five horses (so far as I am able to judge), in good condition. The open wagon is almost uselessfor this service, having been in use since the establishment of patrol service in this city, and should be laid aside. The covered wagon could, with some needed repairs, be made to do service for some time, but both are too heavy for constant use. The covered one weighs 1,820 pounds net, and, with the drivers and from one toten prisoners, makes a load entirely too great for two horses. I recommend the purchase of a new covered wagon with a capacity for carrying not to exceed six people, and to weigh about 1,200 pounds, to be used night and day in answering calls made by the patrolmen; and that the covered wagon now in use, be repaired and used for delivering prisoners to the work house, and used only in such cases as tramp and other raids, where a considerable number of prisoners may be expected. By using the lighter wagon for ordinary calls, the saving in horse-flesh will pay for the same.

STATION HOUSE.

The building now occupied for station house purposes, is, and long has been, inadequate for the service of this department. It often happens that the cell-room for prisoners is over-crowded, and some provision should be made for such emergencies—besides the sanitary condition of the whole building is bad. It would seem that the time has come when Indianapolis should have as good station house, with all modern improvements, as any of her sister cities, and should not be content to continue in use of a building and appointments, when the day of its usefulness has long since been outlived.

In this connection I desire to call your especial attention to the imperative need of a change in the quarters assigned for women. At present, there are but two cell-rooms devoted to this use, in one of which are four cots, and in the other, two. It often happens that these are all occupied and the matron is compelled to detain a fugitive, who is not vicious, or some young girl who has left herhome, or who may have no other place to go to, and thus place such with women who are criminals, or whose lives are such that the influence over these unfortunates for evil in a single night would be lasting. Also it occurs frequently that insane women are brought here who must be cared for until admitted to the asylum, and thematron is compelled to place such in one of the rooms spoken of, with women held under various charges. I recommend that an additional room be provided, or that the large room be divided in order that the evils above referred to may be lessened.

POLICE MATRON.

I respectfully request your careful consideration of the report of Police Matron Annie Buchanan. While my experience in this department has been brief, still it has already been sufficient to enable me to commend to your honorable Board, and through you to the public, the work performed by her. I would that the ladies of this city could see as I do daily, the devoted, painstaking, sacrificing labor bestowed by this earnest christian woman in behalf of the unfortunate and the fallen of her sex. No woman is so low, coarse, vulgar or filthy but that the moment she is brought in the Matron is ready at any hour, be it day or night, to receive her, and when in proper frame of mind will hear from her words of comfort, cheer

and hope. I most heartily approve her request for an assistant and additional quarters, fully believing that were it possible for the public to thoroughly understand the nature and scope of her work, it would be satisfied with nothing else.

DISCIPLINE.

The discipline of the Department has been good, and the Force has been taught that obedience to proper authority, compliance with established rules, and dilligence in the performance of duty, are the prerequisits for efficient service in the Police Department. All violations of rules have been promptly reported to your honorable Board, and the promptness and fairness with which all cases have been treated has aided materially in maintaining proper discipline.

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF OFFICERS.

On examination I find that the number of Patrolmen has not been increased with the growth of the city and annexation of territory. This city is now, and has been policed by a smaller number of men in proportion to population than any other city in the United States, and I respectfully submit for your earnest consideration a statement of the number of officers and the ratio of officers to population in cities of over 20,000 inhabitants, as shown by the census of 1890.

Compiled from U. S. Census of 1890, and Police Reports of 1891.

NAME OF CITY.	RATIO OF OFFICERS TO POPULATION	No. of Officers	Populati'n	REMARKS.
New York, N. Y	2.36	3,580	1,515,301	
Chicago, Ill	1.89	2,335	1,089,850	
Philadelphia, Pa	1.81	1,898	1,046,964	
Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.63	1,316	806,343	
St. Louis, Mo		800	451,770	
Boston, Mass	1.95	874	448,477	
Baltimore, Md		780	434,439	
San Francisco, Cal	1.52	456	293,997	
Cleveland, O		306	261,353	
Cincinnati, O		489	296,908	
Buffalo, N. Y	1.65	422 -	255,664	
New Orleans, La	1.06	256	242,029	
			258,431	New
Washington, D. C	1.81	780	230,392	Old.
Pittsburg, Pa	1.28	305	238,617	
Detroit, Mich		374	205,876	
Milwaukee, Wis		199	204,468	
Newark, N. J	1.33	241	181,830	
Minneapolis, Minn	1.37	225	164,738	
Jersey City, N. J	1.63	266	163,003	
Louisville, Ky	1.33	214	161,129	
Rochester, N. Y	1.08	145	133,896	
Omaha, Neb	.66	92	140,452	
Kansas City, Mo	1.39	185	132,716	
St. Paul, Minn	1.35	180	133,156	
Providence, R. I	1.65	218	132,146	
Denver, Colo	1.05	112	* 106,713	
Indianapolis, Ind	.95	100	105,436	
Atlanta, Ga	1.85	121	65,533	
Troy, N. Y	1.80	110	60,956	
Charleston, S. C	1.84	101	54,955	
Hoboken, N. J	1.90	83	43,648	
Newport, R. I	1.80	35	19,457	PHAT A
Birmingham, Ala	2.10	55	26,178	

From the above statement it will be seen that in this city we had less than one officer for each 1 000 inhabitants, while it is a well-known fact that since 1890 our population has increased largely, and much territory has been added to the city. At present the city contains over 15 square miles, and some of the police districts are from necessity so large that it is impossible for one officer to properly patrol his district. One of the districts contains 2.85 square miles, an extent of territory utterly out of the question for one man to properly cover. The efficiency of the force is greatly impaired for want of more patrolmen, and an increase of at least 20 is an

imperative necessity. This number will no more than meet the just and reasonable demands of citizens in various parts of the city. especially in the outlying districts, for better police protection, As the city grows larger the demand for increased police protection grows proportionately, and I know of nothing for which our citizens. would more willingly pay. While the rolls shows 112 persons connected with this Department, still it is a fact that we have but 68 patrolmen and 8 sergeants, making a total of 76 men to perform active patrol service. When it is remembered that these men, making no deduction for sickness and lost time, are required to cover over 15 square miles of territory, the suggestion of the increase mentioned will be appreciated. In this connection I earnestly recommend that at least six officers be mounted. Experience in other cities has long since demonstrated the value of mounted patrolmen, and as many calls for police officers are daily and nightly received from places in the city some distance from car lines, and at hours when the cars have ceased to run, mounted officers are needed to give quick response to such calls; besides these mounted officers could patrol the large outlying districts much better than men on foot.

DEATHS.

But one death has occurred in the membership of the Police Force during the year, that of patrolman Perry Olds, who died May 10, 1893, and whose record was that of an efficient officer.

TELEPHONE BOXES.

The number of telephone or patrol boxes remains the same as last year and they are located as follows:

Box No. 2-Corner Ninth Street and Columbia Avenue.

Box No. 3-Mississippi and First Streets.

Box No. 4-Sanders and East Streets.

Box No. 5-Fort Wayne and Christian Avenues.

Box No. 6-Washington and West Streets.

Box No. 7-Washington and Davidson Streets.

Box No. 8-Massachusetts Avenue near Little Depot.

Box No. 9-Elizabeth and Blake Streets.

Box No. 10--McCarty Street, first alley west of Meridian.

Box No. 11-McCarty and East Streets.

Box No. 12-Virginia Avenue and Prospect Streets.

Box No. 13-Yellow Bridge and Indiana Avenue.

It will be seen by the above statement that there are but twelve of these boxes, while the police districts number twenty-five, there being thus not quite one box for every two districts. At night, after the drug and other stores, having telephones, are closed, the officers are compelled to spend much of their time traveling from their districts to these boxes to report to the station. Besides, after midnight, in an emergency, it occurs that when the officers are to be summoned to the station or some other point in the city, the scattered location of these boxes causes serious delay in affording prompt protection and relief. I would recommend therefore that the number of these boxes be increased so that there may be at least one in each police district. With this increase the officers can be required to report oftener, especially at night, and the office and the public thus be able to secure the services of an officer more readily.

SERGEANTS' DIVISIONS.

The city is also divided into six Sergeants' Divisions, comprising the following Patrolmen Districts:

Sergeant's Division No. 1 consists of Patrolmen Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

- Sergeant's Division No. 2 consists of Patrolmen Districts 13, 5 and 6.

Sergeant's Division No. 3 consists of Patrolmen Districts 11, 12, 14 and 15.

Sergeant's Division No. 4 consists of Patrolmen Districts 8, 9, 10 and 7.

Sergeant's Division No. 5 consists of Patrolmen Districts 16, 17 and 18.

Sergeant's Division No. 6 consists of Patrolmen Districts 19, 20 and 21.

Six Sergeants are required to do night duty and two day duty.

POLICE DISTRICTS.

The city at present is divided into twenty-five regular police districts, bounded as follows:

DISTRICT No. 1. South-Christian and Clifford Avenues.

West -College Avenue.

East -Corporation Line.

North-Corporation Line.

—206—				
DISTRICT No. :	2. South — First and St. Mary Streets.			
	North—Corporation Line.			
	West —Pennsylvania Street.			
	East —College Avenue.			
DISTRICT No. 3	3. South—St. Clair Street.			
	West —Mississippi Street.			
	East —Pennsylvania Street.			
	North—Corporation Line.			
DISTRICT No. 4	The Little of the Control of the Con			
	East —Mississippi Street.			
	North—Corporation Line.			
	West —Corporation Line.			
DISTRICT No. 5				
	North-St. Clair and Indiana Avenue.			
	East —West Street.			
	West —Corporation Line.			
DISTRICT No. 6				
	North—St. Clair Street.			
	West —West Street.			
	East —Pennsylvania Street.			
DISTRICT No. 7				
	North—First and St. Mary Streets.			
	West —Pennsylvania Street.			
Dromotom V. 0	East —Noble and Plum Streets.			
District No. 8				
	North—Christian and Clifford Avenues.			
	West —Noble and Plum Streets.			
DISTRICT No. 9	East —Corporation Line. North—New York Street.			
District 110. 0				
	South—Louisiana Street and Big 4 Railroad. West —Noble Street.			
	· East —Corporation Line.			
DISTRICT No. 10				
	South-Louisiana Street and Big 4 Railroad.			
	East —Noble Street.			
	West —Alabama Street.			
DISTRICT No. 11				
	North—New York Street.			
	East Alabama Street.			
	West —Illinois Street.			

DISTRICT No. 12. South-Washington Street. North-New York Street. East -Illinois Street. West -West Street. North-New York Street. DISTRICT No. 13. South-Vandalia Railroad. East -West Street. West - Corporation Line. DISTRICT No. 14. North-Washington Street. South-Louisiana Street. East -Illinois Street. West -West Street. North-Washington Street. DISTRICT No. 15. South-Louisiana Street. West -Illinois Street. East -Alabama Street. DISTRICT No. 16. East -Meridian Street. West -Corporation Line. North-Louisiana Street and Vandalia Railroad. South-McCarty Street. DISTRICT No. 17. East -East Street. West -Meridian Street. South-McCarty Street. North-Louisiana Street and Big 4 Railroad. West -East Street. DISTRICT No. 18. East -Corporation Line. South-McCarty Street, Virginia Avenue and Prospect Street. North-Louisiana Street and Big 4 Railroad. West -East Street. DISTRICT No. 19. East -Corporation Line. South-Corporation Line. North-McCarty Street, Virginia Avenue and Prospect Street. DISTRICT No. 20. North-McCarty Street. South-Corporation Line. East -East Street.

West -Meridian Street.

DISTRICT No. 21. North-McCarty Street.

East —Meridian Street. South—Corporation Line.

West -Corporation Line.

DISTRICT No. 22. Corner Illinois and Washington Streets.

DISTRICT No. 23. All Washington Street between Illinois and Meridian Streets, including corner Meridian and Washington Streets.

DISTRICT No. 24. All Washington Street between Meridian and Pennsylvania Streets, including corner Pennsylvania and Washington Streets and Virginia Avenue.

DISTRICT No. 25. All Pennsylvania Street between Washington and Ohio Streets.

For each police district it requires three patrolmen, one on day and two at night, with the exception of Districts 22, 23, 24 and 25, which are day districts.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report, I desire to tender my thanks to His Honor, Mayor Denny, and your honorable Board, and to your very painstaking and efficient clerk, Mr. R. C. Herrick, for kindnesses received and courtesies shown me, and also desire to acknowledge my appreciation of the efforts of Chief of Detectives Splann, Captains Campbell and Quigley, each of the Sergeants and Patrolmen, Police Matron Buchanan; and of my energetic and tireless clerk, Mr. E. F. Harris, in aiding me in the performance of the duties of my office—and I enter upon the new year with the confidence that they will each and all be loyal to the interests and good name of our city.

I am, very respectfully, Your obedient servant,

> GEORGE W. POWELL, Superintendent of Police.